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For Immediate Release

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TROY MIDDLE SCHOOL FCCLA CHAPTER WINS \$1,000 FOR FACTS PROJECT

RESTON, Va. — Troy Middle, Missouri, was selected to receive the 2007 FCCLA National Middle School FACTS (Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety) Award, sponsored by Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The goals of the program are to save lives through sober driving, seat belt use, and safe driving habits. The purpose of the FACTS award program is to encourage local chapter members to identify a specific community traffic safety problem and carry out an innovative project to address that need. Using their Family and Consumer Sciences skills, members can take the lead in their communities and show how youth can make a difference.

As the national middle school winner, the Troy Middle FCCLA chapter will receive a \$1,000 award, presented to them at the 2007 FCCLA National Leadership Meeting, July 8–12 in Anaheim, California.

FCCLA members researched seat belt safety information for their project, “Be Safe or Be Sorry—Wear Your Seat Belt.” Then they held two assemblies for the student body. The first showed students the significant impact of a crash going only five miles per hour. Guest speaker Penny Lorenz addressed the students in the second assembly. She talked about her life as a paraplegic and her mission of educating the public about wearing seat belts. The last part of the FCCLA chapter’s project involved observing drivers as they passed the school to see if they were wearing their seat belts, and providing them with information about the importance of buckling up.

FCCLA: The Ultimate Leadership Experience is a dynamic and effective national student organization that helps young men and women become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and societal issues through Family and Consumer Sciences Education. FCCLA has more than 220,000 members and nearly 7,000 chapters from 50 state associations and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin

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Islands. The organization has involved more than ten million youth since its founding in 1945.

Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is unique among youth organizations because its programs are planned and run by members. It is the only career and technical in-school student organization with the family as its central focus. Participation in national programs and chapter activities helps members become strong leaders in their families, careers, and communities.

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